April 10
1924

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840].

"Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and behold, I, having examined him before you, have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him" (LUKE 23 : 14).

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TESTIMONY AND THANKSGIVING.*

PRESIDENT CHARLES W. PENROSE.

I REJOICE in the Lord my God. I am filled with gratitude in my soul to-day for all His mercies to me, and I can see many of those things which will be in the day when "the veil o'er the earth" will be not only "beginning to burst," but when it shall burst over all the earth, clothed with the light of God, blessed with the presence of its Redeemer and King, and all things be subdued unto Him who is our living head. God be praised this morning for the things that we have heard from the leader of this people. It is evident that the Lord is with him, as he has been for many years, and that the same spirit and power brought to earth from on high by the presence of the Father and the Son, through the Prophet Joseph Smith, are here to-day, and have been with the Church from the time of its organization down to the present moment.

Those great men who succeeded the Prophet Joseph Smith in the presidency of this Church were indeed men of God. I was acquainted with them all personally, as President Grant has testified concerning his acquaintance. I knew the men; I knew their private feelings, their inmost souls. I was familiarly acquainted with each of them, and shared the joy of their confidence and their good will, and the manifestations of God to them in private as well as in public. I can testify, as I am willing to do to all the world, that they were indeed men of God, clothed upon with the power of that holy Priesthood restored to earth in the last days through divine messengers sent from on high to introduce the work of the last dispensation of the fulness of times. I am very

*Address delivered at the first session of General Conference in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 5, 1923.

thankful to be here this morning. It is better than anything else I can think of, to be here with this great congregation and to listen to the words of inspiration that have come to us to-day. I rejoice in the past, I feel full of happiness and peace for the present, and my soul is filled with joyful anticipation because of the future. I know that this is the work of God, and I also know a little of what it will be when that veil of the covering is taken away, and the Light of the Lord shines out from above, from the Most High, and the earth is redeemed and clothed upon with His glory and His power. I am thankful for this testimony in my heart. I know it has come, not from any great effort of mine, any great abilities or learning of mine, but by the word of the Lord to me. I know that He has been with me all the days of my ministry in this Church. I was ordained an Elder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, according to a certificate which I carry with me, on the sixth day of January, 1851, and from that time to the present I have felt that I am an Elder in Israel, a servant of the Most High God, that I was dedicated to His service anywhere and everywhere and at all times, under all circumstances and seasons, in all the nations of the earth; and I have realized the blessings of the Lord in supporting me in all the efforts I have been able to make for the furtherance of this great divine cause in the world. I know that the Lord is with this people, that He has been with them from the beginning, that He has been with those who have been called to lead them from the beginning, and that He will continue so to do. I know that He will be with us, every one of us, if we will carry out the things that have been taught to us this morning. They are not new by any means; delivered in a new way, perhaps, and an impressive manner that comes right down into our souls, but they are the word of the Lord and have been delivered to this people from the time of the organization of the Church; and the work has been gradually developing, getting bigger, stronger, mightier, having more influence in the earth.

When we hear these glad reports concerning the spread of the work in foreign lands, it gives us pleasure and gives us courage to still press forward and to do our part in the great cause. The building of these temples which have been dedicated to the Lord is a wonderful mark of the work of the Lord, and of its promise to us. The building of the Alberta temple—some will call it the Cardston temple, or the Canadian temple, but it is the Alberta temple, that is the name of it—the building of that structure upon English soil is an indication to us of what the Lord will do. The temples will not be confined altogether to Zion, even though that may cover both North and South America. The work will spread forth in other lands as the veil o'er the covering continues to burst. The spiritual and temporal, the heavenly and earthly, will be closer, in being joined together, and the time will come

when we shall have plenty of work to do, in the millennial season, the one thousand years, the one "day of the Lord," when we get communications from the Priesthood behind the veil to the Priesthood in the earth, in the temples that will be erected. In those holy conversations we read about in the revelations of God, concerning the building of a house to Him, that day is not very far off, as the Lord sees things. It may be quite a while as we see them, but they are real, and that which God has promised concerning them will surely come to pass. The wonderful work that is going on in these temples now is but an indication of that which is to come. The building of the temple in Hawaii, shows that we go to the heathen, as we have been invited to do sometimes by our good Christian friends; going to the islands of the sea, fulfils the command of the Lord. These things will be increased and multiplied, and temples will be built in the north and in the south, in the east and the west, so that all that needs to be done in the great work of redemption for the dead, as well as for the living, will be accomplished, and brought about just as it has been revealed by the prophets.

The great thing for us Latter-day Saints to-day, gathered here in conference, representing the people that could not get here—for this is a representative body in conference assembled, representing the Saints in all the stakes of Zion—the thing for us to do is to take the word of the Lord to-day, to do that which the Lord requires of us, obey His commandments, walk in obedience to His sayings, keep in the line of duty, in the strait and narrow way, and not go off to the side, to the right or to the left, and not get mixed up in those entangling alliances which some of our people enjoy with the institutions of the world. I don't want to say one word against those institutions that are established in the world, in the way of charity or literature or science, real science, or art, or anything that is called religion, even though it be not much of a religion, but beneficial in its sphere, I would not say a word against them. But for us what should we do, Elders in Israel, servants of the living God, called of God in the latter days to hold this divine authority to preach the Gospel to all the world, to every nation and kindred and tongue and people? That is what these temples signify to me. This was the word of the Lord from the beginning. The Gospel was brought from heaven to earth for all the world, and it is our business to see that it goes there as far as we can.

Now, what is our duty? Our duty is to walk in the straight way, and find out the will of the Lord and do it as far as we have power, in the weakness of our human bodies, teach it to our children, bring them up in the fear of the Lord, keep them in the path. It is a sad thing when our people stray off into organizations that are not in consonance with the word of the Lord and His ways. It is not a good thing to be tangled up with them,

my brethren. It is good to stay in this Church. When we came into it we were baptized into it over head and ears, and feet, the whole of us, body and spirit. The soul of man went into the water of baptism, and so we belong to the Lord. We took upon us the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer; we belong to Him, and He purchased us by the price of His own blood. To say that we do not believe in Christ is so ridiculous that we need not say anything to confute it. This is His Church; He started it; He has continued with it; He is with it to-day. The Spirit manifested to-day in the leader of the Church is the Spirit of Christ. Don't you feel that? I am sure you do. I need not say anything on that. You feel it not only "in your bones," but in the soul of you, the spirit of you. It is within you. You feel that the Spirit of God has been with us here to-day, and has been with the president through all his administration, and he is growing younger with the years. He is getting younger in mind and body, and he is full of light and life and power, and I am proud of being associated with him. Thank God for the privilege. I thank God for being a member of this Church. It is a wonderful privilege. It is a great blessing from on high, to be baptized into Christ, to try and put on Christ in life and labor and spirit and energy and power; to be with Him and to feel that I can approach God the Father through and by Him and have fellowship with Him as well as with my brethren and sisters in the Church. It is by that Spirit that the Lord has blessed me and guided me through the years that have passed, and I bless and praise and glorify His holy name in the congregation to-day.

(TO BE CONTINUED).

MINUTES OF THE BERLIN CONFERENCE.

THE annual Berlin conference was held on March 8th, 9th and 10th. In attendance were President David O. McKay of the European mission, President Fred Tadje of the Swiss and German mission, Elder Jean Wunderlich, Editor of *Der Stern*, Elder Otto Buehner of Basel, Elder Llewelyn McKay of the Frankfurt conference, President Glen A. Rowe and all the traveling Elders of the Hamburg conference, President Orin Woodbury and all the traveling Elders of the Hannover conference, President Armand J. Eardley and all the traveling Elders of the Stettin conference, President Charles W. Nibley of the Leipzig conference, President Lawrence A. Ripplinger of the Bern conference and President Willard M. Hansen and all the traveling Elders of the Berlin conference. The various sessions were conducted by President Hansen under the direction of President McKay and President Tadje.

A meeting of the Priesthood, and the officers and teachers of the various organizations of the Berlin conference was held Saturday, March 8th. The meeting commenced at 7:30 p.m. by the congre-

gation's singing "O Fülle des Heiles." Prayer was offered by President Eardley. The meeting continued by singing, "Ihr Söhne Gottes." Opening remarks were made by President Hansen. A count of those present was taken. Present were: 8 Elders, 21 Priests, 8 Teachers, 29 Deacons, 95 officers and teachers of the Sunday-school, 15 officers and teachers of the Relief Society, making, together with the visiting missionaries, Saints and friends, a total of 323 present at the meeting. A count was also made showing those present from the various branches of the conference.

A report on the conditions of the various branches was given by the branch presidents. All reported an excellent growth in the branches during the past year, and also good prospects for the future. The report on the conditions in the Priesthood was very gratifying, there being but few members who do not pay a full tithing and who do not keep the Word of Wisdom. Reports by the Presidents of the Relief Societies showed these organizations to be in a flourishing condition, and imbued with the spirit of their work.

The Men's Chorus of the Berlin Centrum branch rendered the song, "Brüder reicht die Hand zum Bunde."

President Tadje spoke on the necessity of punctuality in beginning meetings and in keeping appointments. He said that the Spirit of the Lord is at the meetings on time, and that the Spirit should not be kept waiting for us.

Elder Charles Schmidt sang "O Mein Vater."

President David O. McKay then spoke of the attributes a good teacher should possess. He mentioned sincerity, sympathy, self-mastery, and a desire to serve as being those most desirable. President McKay showed how these qualities are necessary to one who strives to teach others.

The meeting closed at 9:45 by the congregation's singing, "Tue was ist Recht." Prayer was spoken by Elder Gustav Weller.

The Sunday-school session was held in the Berlin-Centrum branch on Sunday, March 9th. After preliminary music by the organist, Brother Walter Rathke, the Sunday-school commenced at 10: 30 a.m. by the congregation's singing, "Sei Willkommen Sabbatmorgen." Prayer was offered by Brother L. Rathke. "Wie Gross die Liebe und Geduld" was the sacramental song. The sacrament gem was led by Elder Fritz Fischer of the Ost branch. The sacrament was administered, after which Brother Wohler of the Centrum branch gave a short talk on the sacrament as believed by the Latter-day Saints. Brother Köcher of the Moabit branch led the concert recitation. The congregation practiced the song "Hab' ich Gutes am heutigen Tag getan" under the direction of Brother Fritz Wernick of the Ost branch. President Hansen spoke words of welcome and made the announcements for the meetings of the day.

A program was rendered by members of the Sunday-schools of

the conference. Verses pertaining to baptism for the dead were recited by members of the Intermediate class of the Spandau branch. A singing exercise was given by girls of the Intermediate classes of the Moabit branch; Heinz Otto of the Centrum Kindergarten sang "Mässigkeit ist schön und gut." Members of the Intermediate classes of the Ost Sunday-school recited famous sayings of the Prophet Joseph Smith. A boy's chorus from the Moabit branch, led by Elder Charles Schmidt, sang, "Have I done any good in the world to-day," in English. The Second Intermediate class of the Centrum branch recited verses proving the authenticity of the Book of Mormon. The Ost children's chorus sang "Soll die Jugend Zions zittern."

President Tadje addressed the congregation. He spoke of the necessity of prayer in our lives and keeping the Word of Wisdom.

President McKay, speaking with Elder Wunderlich as interpreter, complimented the Sunday-school on the good order, and pronounced the whole meeting "Ideal." He directed his remarks to the children, and told the story of the widow's son's being raised from the dead by Christ. He showed how the blessings of the Lord are for all people, poor and rich.

The closing song was "Freude Spendet." Brother Siegfried Pahnke pronounced the benediction.

1,006 members and friends were present.

The afternoon and evening meetings of the conference were held in the Berlin City Hall on Klosterstrasse.

The afternoon session commenced at 2 p.m. The opening song, "Der Geist aus den Höhen," was sung by the congregation. Prayer was offered by Elder Friedrich Radichel. The Ost choir rendered the second song.

President Hansen extended a welcome to all present, and explained the purpose of the Latter-day Saints in holding conferences.

The names of the general, the mission and the conference authorities were presented and unanimously sustained.

President Woodbury, the first speaker, showed the necessity of divine guidance in receiving a testimony of the Gospel.

President Rowe spoke of the eleven witnesses to the Book of Mormon. He pointed out that these men were not deceived, that the world must accept their testimony as being the truth.

A song was rendered by the choir of the Ost branch.

President McKay was the next speaker. He pointed to the life of Christ as being the ideal of a Latter-day Saint, and admonished all to strive to this ideal of character.

Elder Charles Schmidt rendered a tenor solo.

President Tadje spoke of our message to the world. He bore his testimony of the divinity of "Mormonism."

The meeting was brought to a close by a song from the Ost choir. Brother Arthur Schumann spoke the closing prayer.

There were 1,020 present at the afternoon session.

The evening session commenced at 6: 30 p.m. by the congregation's singing, "Wir danken dir, Herr, für Propheten." Elder Fritz Fischer spoke the invocation. The choir of the Centrum branch sang "Millennium."

President Hansen made the opening remarks, speaking on the purpose of the Latter-day Saints in sending missionaries into the world.

President Eardley spoke on Spiritual Gifts, showing them to be a necessary part of the Church of Christ.

A vocal solo was rendered by Sister Lily Bienert of the Centrum branch.

President Nibley explained the mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and bore his testimony to its divinity.

The Centrum Men's Chorus sang "Fest und Stark."

President McKay addressed the congregation. He thanked all of those who had taken part in the conference and had helped to make it successful. Mention was made of the tolerance of the City of Berlin in allowing us to use their city hall for our meetings. President McKay spoke on the subject of neighborly love and tolerance.

The Centrum choir sang the closing song. Elder Buehner pronounced the benediction.

There were 1,276 present at the evening session.

A meeting of the missionaries of the Berlin, the Hamburg, the Hannover and the Stettin conference was held in the Berlin-Moabit branch, Monday, March 10th, at 1: 30 p.m., under the direction of President McKay.

President Tadje made the opening remarks and requested expressions from the Elders on the following subjects: average expenditures per month, an obscure point of the Gospel, and a gem in the Gospel which stands out above all others. He also gave various admonitions on accuracy in keeping the books and accounts.

After expressions on the above subjects had been given by each of the Elders, the meeting was adjourned for an hour that those assembled could partake of refreshments which had been prepared by the Moabit Relief Society.

The meeting convened again at 6: 30 p.m. President McKay took over the time. Conduct becoming to a gentleman and a missionary was the first subject upon which he spoke. He gave several good examples to show the necessity of being gentlemanly at all times. Several questions upon obscure points of doctrine were cleared up. President McKay explained the creation, the fall and the atonement.

The spiritual feast closed at 10: 30 p.m. by the congregation's singing, "Do What is Right."

Elder Rowe spoke the closing prayer.

WILLARD M. HANSEN, Conference President.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

DAVID O. MCKAY, Editor.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1924.

EDITORIAL:

BACK TO THE MEDES AND PERSIANS.

"FORASMUCH as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him. Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God."

These words indicate the pernicious plot laid by petty "presidents and princes" in the days of the Medes and Persians when statutes and laws were irrevocable. Every Bible student is familiar with the despicable scheme to entrap Daniel, and to prevent his praying to his God.

Many of us used to take comfort in the thought that those harsh, unjust "presidents and princes" lived over two thousand years ago, and that to-day in this enlightened twentieth century, men can worship God as they choose. But the following incident quite shatters this pleasing delusion, and almost makes one wonder if, after all, the spirit of the Medes and Persians is not still extant!

In the town of Abercarn, Wales, there is a gentleman who has been a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for over twenty-five years. He is a highly respectable member of the community in which he lives. Not having a suitable hall or church in which to hold Sunday service, he has been worshipping his God in his own home, with his children and a few friends who joined them.

Recently, the Abercarn Urban District Council "received a letter from a *certain organization* asking them to take the matter up," which meant, we infer, that the Council should pass an ordinance prohibiting the devout Christian and true Latter-day Saint from holding services in his home.

And the Council did it!

The reason (if reason it can be called) for such unprecedented action may be found in the following extract from the *South Wales Argus*, March 12th, 1924:

"Mr. E. T. Jones: What is the objection to the Latter-day Saints?

"The Chairman (Mr. E. Smith): They are Mormons.

"Dr. E. M. Griffiths said the question of religions beliefs did not interest them at all, but he reminded them that only two years

ago nearly thirty girls left Machen and disappeared. These people were drummed out of Machen. The question made no difference to him personally, but they did not want any more girls leaving the district and parents lamenting their departure and not knowing where they had gone to. He added that the man in question was (is) *thoroughly respectable.*

"Mr. E. T. Jones: Isn't an Englishman's home his castle, and hasn't he the right to invite any persons to his house?

"It was decided, on motion of Mr. T. Thomas, to ask the tenant to abide by the undertaking he had given the Council."

And so the tenant, like Daniel of old, must either give up worshipping his God in his home, or seek another house elsewhere! And this in the twentieth century!

Truly the spirit of those ancient "presidents and princes" is still abroad among men!

The following letter was sent to the Abercarn District Council, March 25th:

Abercarn District Council,
Abercarn, Wales.

Sirs:

On my desk is a clipping from the *South Wales Argus* which conveys the information that recently your honorable body took action against one of your fellow-townsmen, depriving him of the right to hold religious services in his home. The only reason given for such arbitrary action, was that "He is a Mormon."

Now the word "Mormon," unlike charity, *un*covers, to the evil-minded, a multitude of sins; so, undoubtedly, the reason for your action is all-sufficient, especially to the credulous crowd.

But have you gone far enough? Are you not aware of the fact that the gentleman in question is still offering prayers in his home? Have you not been informed by the "Society for the Promulgation of Slander," or whatever that "certain organization" is called, that the tenant and his children against whom you are passing a special ordinance, render thanksgiving to their God every night and morning? Why not complete your work by demanding that such prayers be not offered in a house that belongs to a Christian City Council!

If you have the right to prevent his singing hymns, and of speaking, in the presence of his family and of friends, of the grace and goodness of God, you also have the right to order him to cease his prayers; because "He is a Mormon."

It is true he is honest, industrious, a good neighbor, a worthy citizen in every respect, "thoroughly respectable," but "He is a Mormon"; therefore, he must be deprived of one of the most cherished of traditional privileges. No matter how upright his life, a gullible public imagines there is something bad about him; so in the interest of public morals (?), the official representatives of the public stop him from worshipping his God in his household!

Since you have a good example in the Medes and Persians who passed the same kind of legislation against Daniel over two thousand years ago, why not complete your commendable legislation, and prohibit your tenant from teaching his children to pray?

In further justification of such action, you have before you the testimony of one of your number, that two years ago, thirty girls left a town called Machen; and you know that whenever any girl leaves any town in Great Britain, the "Mormons" are responsible, just as the early Christians were responsible for the overflowing of the Tiber river, and for every evil of which bitter minds could accuse them.

Of course, readers of the press think you have investigated all these charges against the "Mormons." If you haven't, and it is evident to everyone who knows the facts that you have not, then you have become a contributing influence to vicious slanders.

To judge either a man or a people so unjustly is unbecoming a body of intelligent men. I can not believe that true Welshmen would do it; for it is difficult for me to conceive that the people from whom my mother comes, can be so bigoted!

Respectfully yours,

DAVID O. MCKAY.

CHANGE IN CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

THE Sheffield conference will be held Sunday, May 18th, instead of Sunday, May 11th, as previously announced. The Free State annual conference will be held May 11th, instead of May 18th.

MINUTES OF THE ULSTER CONFERENCE.

THE first annual Ulster conference convened in Belfast, Sunday, March 23rd. There were in attendance: President David O. McKay and Elder William E. Allen from Liverpool, Elders Walter H. Allington and O. David Merrill of the Free State conference and President John E. Bell and all the traveling Elders and the lady missionary of the Ulster conference. President McKay presided and President Bell conducted during each of the sessions.

The Sunday-school session commenced by the congregation's singing "Joseph Smith's First Prayer." Prayer was offered by Elder Ianthus L. Richards. "Jesus, My Savior" was sung by the congregation as the sacramental song. Led by Superintendent Ernest J. Johnson, the congregation repeated the sacrament gem. The sacrament was administered by Elder Marcellus R. Clark and Brother Thomas J. Ditty, assisted by Brother Bryan Magee. The congregation repeated the concert recitation.

A program was rendered by the members of the Sunday-school. Five girls of the Intermediate department sang a chorus. Sister Molly Magee rendered a violin solo, "Oh! I Had Such a Pretty Dream, Mamma." Sisters Ruth Caulfield, Molly Magee, Lily Templeton and Jeannie Magee, each, recited one of the concert recitations which had been used in the Sunday-school. Sisters Sarah Hands, Isabella Carmont, Margaret Montgomery and Madge Magee sang a song. A dramatization of a typical discussion between Latter-day Saints and the World on the subject, "Is Baptism Essential to Salvation?" was presented. Those taking part were Brother Bryan Magee, Sisters Madge Magee, Anne McCurdy, Molly Magee and Lily Templeton and Elder O. David Merrill.

President Bell gave a short talk, commending the Sunday-school children upon the excellent manner in which they had rendered their parts of the program. He urged all parents to see that their children attend Sunday-school regularly.

Elder William E. Allen pointed out the advantages of attendance at Sunday-school. He stated that he is very thankful for the teachings he received as a boy in Sunday-school. Elder Allen drew attention to the excellent opportunities offered in the Church for individual advancement. The Sunday-school, he said, offers an unusual opportunity for each member to take active part. He urged all members of the Church to live in accordance with the principles of the Gospel.

President McKay related an incident which occurred in a small city in Germany. Seven applicants for baptism received that ordinance in the middle of winter. It was necessary for the Elders to cut a hole through eight inches of ice in order to reach the water. Yet, not one of the candidates caught cold or felt any ill effects from exposure. President McKay explained that baptism when properly administered is symbolical of a burial and a resurrection. The old self is buried and the candidate arises to a newness of life. Baptism is the initiatory ordinance prescribed by Christ for entrance into His Church.

President McKay commended the children upon the program they had rendered during the session. He told of a Sunday-school in Germany where, though the membership is only thirty-four, yet the attendance approximates seventy-five.

The session closed by the congregation's singing, "Kind Words are Sweet Tones of the Heart." The benediction was pronounced by Elder Walter H. Allington.

The afternoon session commenced at 2:30 p.m., by the congregation's singing, "High On The Mountain Top." Prayer was offered by Elder Ernest J. Johnson. The congregation sang, "The Spirit of God Like a Fire Is Burning."

President Bell presented the names of the general, the mission and the conference authorities, all of whom were unanimously sustained by vote of the conference.

Elder Ianthus L. Richards, the first speaker, bore his testimony of the truthfulness of the Gospel. He spoke of the prophecies of Joseph Smith and of their fulfilment.

Sister Maude E. Johnson bore her testimony and told of some of the blessings which are predicated upon the keeping of the Word of Wisdom.

Elder Ernest J. Johnson pointed out the similarities of the teachings as found in the Bible and the Book of Mormon.

Sister Sarah Hands favored with a vocal solo.

Elder Marcellus R. Clark stated that there are two forces in the universe, each fighting against the other. These two forces operate upon each individual, he said. Elder Clark exhorted the Saints to ask themselves the question, "Who's on the Lord's side, Who? Now is the time to show."

Elder O. David Merrill said he deplores the fact that so many of the countries of the world have forgotten God. He also pointed out that everyone who pays an honest tithe will receive his just compensation.

Elder Walter H. Allington commented upon the vividness with which President McKay had explained the principle of baptism during the morning session. Elder Allington declared that no one who is out of tune with the Holy Spirit can comprehend the significance of the ordinances of the Gospel. He exhorted his hearers to heed the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Brother Malcom Hunter rendered a vocal solo, "Jesus, My Savior."

President McKay called for a report from the various auxiliary organizations. He said he is of the opinion that the members of the different branches are able to do a great work in promulgating the Gospel.

President McKay gave a brief account of his visit to Belgium where the French mission was reorganized. He also commented upon features of his visit to Germany.

The session closed by the congregation's singing, "O, Say What is Truth?" Brother Thomas J. Ditty pronounced the benediction.

The evening session commenced at 6:30 p.m. The congregation sang, "What was Witnessed in the Heavens?" The opening prayer was offered by Elder Marcellus R. Clark. "How Firm a Foundation" was the second song.

Elder William E. Allen, the first speaker, said it is the purpose of the Latter-day Saint missionaries to declare to the world the same Gospel which was preached by the Apostles in the primitive church. He quoted Scripture to prove the inconsistency of the world's belief in the Holy Trinity. He briefly described the vision of Joseph Smith wherein the Prophet learned that God the Father, and His Son, Jesus Christ are separate Beings. Elder Allen recounted how the Aaronic and the Melchizedek Priesthood was conferred upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery. The

speaker read a letter which he had received from his grandfather who became a member of the Church in 1852 in County Antrim, Ireland.

The Alexandra Quartet, consisting of Mr. George H. Hatch, Mr. Adam Donaghy, Mr. Albert McClenahan and Mr. James Alexander sang, "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning."

President McKay was the concluding speaker. He expressed his appreciation for the beautiful singing of the quartet.

The speaker took as his text the definition of religion as given by the Apostle James: "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Pure religion, said President McKay, can be divided into two parts. The first part is characterized by the word, Service. The speaker recited a poem by Montgomery, "A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief," in summarizing Service as an aspect of pure religion. The second division of pure religion is characterized by clean living. President McKay, in expounding this subject, dealt with chastity and the Word of Wisdom as attributes of pure religion.

The Alexandra Quartet favored with two songs, "Evening's Pastorale," and "Thou Art Drifting."

The congregation sang, "When Shall We Meet Again." The benediction was pronounced by Brother Malcolm Hunter.

ERNEST J. JOHNSON, Conference Clerk.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

Releases and Departures.—The following missionaries, honorably released from their labors in the British mission, sailed for their homes Friday, the 4th inst., per s.s. *Montlaurier*:

Peter Tolboe, President Norwich conference.

Joseph A. Orgill, the Manchester, the Welsh and the London conference.

Priesthood Meeting.—Saturday, the 29th, ult., the monthly Priesthood meeting convened at Handsworth (Birmingham conference). President Joseph E. Tillotson, all the traveling Elders, and many saints and friends were in attendance. Handsworth, Kidderminster, Saltley, Northampton, Coventry, Wombourne and Wolverhampton branches reported improvement. Elder Kenneth A. Curtis, who has recently been transferred to Ireland, addressed those present. President Tillotson concluded with instructive remarks.

Socials.—In commemoration of the eighty-second anniversary of the organization of the Relief Society, a pageant was held at "Deseret" (London conference) the evening of the 15th ult. A

large gathering of Saints, friends and Elders was present. The pageant represented the journey of the Pioneers across the plains to the Salt Lake Valley. Improvised pioneer wagons were set up in a circle in the hall; everything was arranged to represent a camp on the plains. The Saints were divided into companies and each company dressed up to represent some great pioneer leader and his family. Brigham Young was represented by President Joseph E. Wright; Parley P. Pratt by Elder Edwin O. Stenquist; George Q. Cannon by Elder William M. Oswald; William Clayton by Elder Karl P. Weiler; Heber C. Kimball by Elder A. Lewis Elggren; Orson Pratt by Elder James E. Bradley; and Lorenzo Snow by Brother Samuel Hislop. Each company furnished numbers for the program. The pageant was a pronounced success.

A social commemorating the founding of the Relief Society was given by the Liverpool branch Relief Society, the 18th ult. Sister Emma Ray McKay gave an account of the first meeting held by the Relief Society. An interesting program was rendered, refreshments were served, and games were played.

Baptisms.—Saturday, the 15th ult., a baptismal service was held at Bradford (Leeds conference). Nine candidates were baptized by Elders J. Norman Dotson and John H. Tanner. They were confirmed by President David D. Lamph and Elders John B. Fowers, Robert G. Gibbons, J. Norman Dotson, John G. Osborne, Frederick G. Stoddard, Rudger C. Atkin, John H. Tanner and Parley A. Petersen.

Friday, the 28th ult., a baptismal service was held at "Durham House" (Liverpool conference). Elder Ernest K. Freckleton baptized five candidates. They were confirmed by Elders Grant Pett, Rulon H. Sanders, William A. Monson and Ernest K. Freckleton and President David O. McKay.

Saturday, the 29th ult., a baptismal service was held at Sheffield. Four candidates were baptized by Elder F. Peter Jones. They were confirmed by Elders Willard Boden, Vernon P. Cole, Scott S. McCune and G. Kimball Mellor.

A baptismal service was held at "Deseret" (London conference) Saturday, the 30th ult. Four candidates were baptized by Elder Edwin O. Stenquist. They were confirmed by Elders Stenquist and Karl P. Weiler and Brother Henry G. Dodman.

Saturday, the 29th ult., a baptismal service was held at the Handsworth chapel, (Birmingham conference). Four candidates were baptized by Elders Kenneth A. Curtis and I. Trevor Buddell. They were confirmed by Elders John H. Smeath, Thomas S. Griffiths and Rodney D. Price, and President Joseph E. Tillotson.

Branch Conferences.—Sunday, the 9th ult., the Leeds branch (Leeds conference) held its annual branch conference. President David D. Lamph presided and Elder John B. Fowers conducted.

The members of the Sunday-school rendered a well-prepared program in the afternoon session. The speakers were Elders John H. Tanner and George A. Baker. An officers and teachers meeting was held wherein each auxiliary organization was given an opportunity of expression. The speakers in the evening session were Brother Arthur E. Banham, Elder John P. Fowers and President Lamph.

Sunday, the 16th ult., a branch conference convened at Bolton (Manchester conference) with President William Blackburn presiding. Superintendent William Barton conducted the Sunday-school session. The speakers were Elders Christopher C. Heaton and William W. Depew, Jr., and Brother George Manders. The speakers in the evening were Elders Russell C. Capener and President Blackburn.

Sunday, the 23rd ult., the Derby branch (Nottingham conference) held its annual conference, with President Selvoy J. Boyer presiding. A program carrying out the theme of the Word of Wisdom was given in the Sunday-school session. The speakers in the evening services were Elders Percy Whetton, Kenneth F. Schade and Harold B. Crompton and President Boyer.

An enthusiastic branch conference was held at Varteg (Welsh conference) Sunday, the 23rd ult. President John W. Crofts and all the traveling Elders of the Welsh conference and about sixty Saints and investigators were in attendance. The speakers in the Sunday-school session were Elders Jesse N. Decker and Rulon W. Openshaw and President Crofts. In the evening session, addresses were delivered by President Crofts and Elders Ralph C. Jones, Joseph M. Skeen and Merlin S. Ellis.

Sunday, the 23rd ult., the North London branch held its annual conference. President and Sister Joseph E. Wright and Elders Karl P. Weiler, Joseph A. Orgill, Edwin O. Stenquist, William M. Oswald, Frederick B. Alleman and A. Lewis Elggren were present. Reports given by the auxiliary organizations showed a marked improvement in the attendance at meetings, in punctuality and in tithing payments. The speakers in the Sunday-school session were Sister Katherine G. Wright, Elders Oswald and Weiler and President Wright. In the evening session, Elders Alleman, Stenquist, Orgill and Elggren and President Wright were the speakers. Owing to the strike of bus drivers and tramcar employees, many Saints were unable to be in attendance.

The Leicester branch (Nottingham conference) held its branch conference Sunday, the 30th ult. President Selvoy J. Boyer presided and Sunday-school Superintendent George Gent and Branch President Frank Wheatley conducted the meetings. A very pleasing program was rendered by the children on "The Miracles of Christ." The speakers were Elders Carl E. Pettersson, Selvoy J. Boyer and Ernest H. Capel. An officers and teachers meeting was held in the afternoon at which reports were given.

STAR TIME.

One star stands bright above the west,
The moon wakes overhead;
An ended song, a finished quest,
The day is dead.

Thou tragic beauty of the dusk,
Sweet with divine regret,
Like wandering odors blown of musk,
And violet.

Like hidden music that betrays
A sorrowing heart,
Now from a thousand dusty ways
From field and mart,

Toil-worn and labor-rough, beneath
Thy silent dome,
And o'er the paths that trace thy heath,
The men come home.

John Charles McNeill.

DEATH.

Umpleby.—Sister Florence Jane Umpleby died at her home in Leeds, March 2, 1924, after an illness of three months duration. Deceased was born at Leeds, April 25, 1888, and was baptized and confirmed March 25, 1916, by Elder William H. Hillyard. Sister Umpleby was an earnest worker in the Relief Society of the Leeds branch. Funeral services were held at Leeds under the direction of President David D. Lamph. President Lamph dedicated the grave.

Rogerson.—Sister Mary Rogerson of Preston (Liverpool conference) died at her home February 25. Deceased was born at Preston, June 22, 1845, and was baptized November 1, 1896, by Elder J. Haymond, and was confirmed by Elder William M. Gerrard. Sister Rogerson was a faithful worker in the Church.

CONTENTS:

Testimony and Thanksgiving... 225
Minutes of Berlin Conference ... 228
Editorial: Back to the Medes and Persians 232
Change in Conference Appointments 234
Minutes of Ulster Conference... 234
From the Mission Field 237
Poetry:
Star Time 240

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